



AROUND THE RIDEAU

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR MUNICIPALITIES IN THE RIDEAU VALLEY

May • June 2003

CITY STREAM WATCH

The Heron Park Community Association, Ottawa South Community Association, Ottawa Flyfishers Society, Rideau River Roundtable, City of Ottawa and the RVCA will administer a Macro Stream Assessment on four streams in the City of Ottawa this summer. They will track shoreline vegetation, temperature, depth, width, fish and wildlife found in each stream (Sawmill Creek, Mud Creek, Black Rapids Creek and Cardinal Creek). "Stream Watch Volunteers" are still needed to help survey the streams (technical training provided). Contact **Brian Bezaire**, City Stream Watch manager, at 580-2424 ext. 33550 or brian.bezaire@ottawa.ca. This project is possible thanks to Trillium funding and other generous collaborators.

SHORELINE CLASSIFICATION SURVEY

RVCA, in partnership with Parks Canada, is starting the 2003 shoreline classification survey from Kars Bridge upstream to Smiths Falls. The aim is to map and classify all man-made and natural features of the shoreline and indicate areas of erosion or degradation to improve shoreline management. Sincere thanks to Hurst Marina for providing boat transportation for this project. For more



information on this study, please contact **Martin Czarski**, Watershed Ecologist at (613) 692-3571 ext. 1163 or mczarski@rideauvalley.on.ca

WEST-NILE VIRUS

The best way of protecting yourself against the West Nile virus is through personal prevention. Clean up around your home and minimize standing water:

- Empty puddles, flower pots, water on pool covers or flat roofs, and change birdbaths every other day
- Clear eavestroughs of twigs and leaves throughout the summer

Wear federally regulated bug repellent with DEET. Wear long sleeves and pants in mosquito-likely areas. For more



information on how to protect yourself, visit the Health Canada West Nile surveillance information website at: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pphb-dgspsp/wnv-vwn/>, or contact your local Public Health Department.

JOINT RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

The meeting will be held on June 26. More information on guest speakers still to come. If you would like to attend, please call **Joan** at 1-800-267-3504

GREEN ACRES 2003-2004 RURAL REFORESTATION PROGRAM

Interested in reforesting an idle field on your property? The City of Ottawa, in cooperation with South Nation, Mississippi, and Rideau Valley Conservation Authorities is currently operating a tree-planting program in rural Ottawa (technical assistance for the planning, planting, and maintenance of small woodlands). Spring 2003 was a great success — approximately 100,000 tree seedlings planted in rural Ottawa. Green Acres is now looking for property owners interested in starting a reforestation project for Spring 2004. Incentive grants may be applicable with approved funding. Those who own at least one acre of property and would like to order a minimum of 500 tree seedlings are encouraged to contact the **LandOwner Resource Centre** in Manotick (1-800-387-5304 or (613) 692-2390).

MAINTAINING A HEALTHY LAWN

As part of the City of Ottawa's three-year pesticide reduction strategy (in hopes of banning cosmetic pesticide use in 2005), residents are encouraged to reduce the use of cosmetic (non-essential) pesticides on their lawns this summer. Pesticides are not only harmful to the environment, but young children, pregnant women, the elderly, people with allergies or weak immune systems, and your pets can be affected. For 10 easy steps on maintaining a beautiful lawn, visit this website: http://ottawa.ca/city_services/yourhealth/environmental/lawn_en.shtml or call the automated pesticide information line at 613-724-4227.





“The goal of watershed-based source protection planning in Ontario is to protect human health through the protection of current and future sources of drinking water...”

Recommendation # 3, Final Report of the Advisory Committee on Watershed-Based Source Protection Planning, Ministry of Environment, April 2003

BAXTER SUMMER DAY CAMPS

The Baxter Conservation Area is holding three day camp programs this summer for all those youngsters looking for great outdoor fun including trail hikes, games, swimming at the beach, campfires, cook-outs and overnights:

- Day Camp:** 6 one-week sessions for campers 6–12 yrs.
July 7–Aug 1, Aug 11–12
- Canoe Camp:** 2 one-week canoe camping sessions for campers 11–13 yrs.
July 28–Aug 1, Aug 18–22
- Leadership Camp:** One 2 week session
July 14–25 for aspiring camp leaders 12–14 yrs.

Open house June 7, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. to visit this beautiful site, ask questions and meet the staff. More information from **Peter Goddard** at (613) 489-3592 or pgoddard@rideauvalley.on.ca.

FREE NEW WELL INSPECTION

The City of Ottawa and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment have developed a pilot program to help protect water quality in local private wells in Ottawa. Homeowners with new rural wells are invited to sign up with the program to receive a free water quality analysis and well inspection report of their well. More information from the LandOwner Resource Centre at 1-800-387-5304 or (613) 692-2390 or **Emily Meyers**, Well Program Administrator, at (613) 692-0178 ext. 1118.

CLEAN WATER PROGRAM GRANTS

The provincial and federal funding of the Rideau Valley Rural Clean Water Program is winding down. There is still funding left, so apply now to receive a grant for your

project (whether it be fencing livestock, surface water treatment, wastewater runoff management, fertilizer or fuel storage, buffers and windbreaks, erosion control, nutrient management or septic system repair). Applications are coming in at an increasing rate, so don't wait!

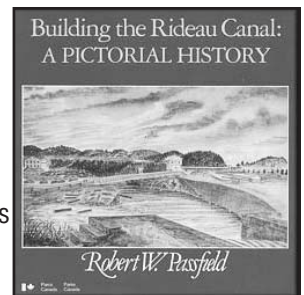
For more information on applications and eligibility, call the **LandOwner Resource Centre** at 1-800-387-5304 or (613) 692-2390.

LOWER RIDEAU WATERSHED STRATEGY

Want to know more about the state of the Lower Rideau River (Burritts Rapids to Rideau Falls) and the future management alternatives for the river? Open House Thursday, June 12, from 5–9 p.m. (presentation at 7 p.m.), at the Manotick Community Hall. We want to hear what you have to say! Contact **Charles Billington** at (613) 692-3571 ext. 1116 or cbillington@rideauvalley.on.ca.

BUILDING THE RIDEAU CANAL: A PICTORIAL HISTORY

Friends of the Rideau are printing this historical book by Robert W. Passfield. Originally published by Parks Canada in 1982 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Rideau Canal, the book discusses the history of the building of the Rideau Canal. For more information on how to get a copy, visit www.rideaufriends.com.



AROUND THE RIDEAU

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Office de protection de la nature de la vallée de la rivière Rideau
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www.rideauvalley.on.ca

Around the Rideau circulation has risen to 2,500 Heads of Council, Councillors, senior municipal and provincial staff, interested persons and the media throughout the 18 municipalities in the Rideau Valley watershed courtesy of our friends at:



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